

SECRETARY
of STATE

Sam Reed



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March 17, 2004

Richard Pope
15905-181st Place NE
Woodinville, WA 98072

Dear Mr. Pope:

On March 15, 2004, you delivered to our office for filing a proposed referendum measure regarding portions of Engrossed Senate Bill 6453. We are unable to accept this proposed measure for filing because the filing is premature.

The Washington Supreme Court has previously stated that a referendum cannot be filed "until after the bill in question [has] been signed by the governor..." *State ex. rel. Daschbach v. Meyers*, 38 Wn.2d 330, 331, 229 P.2d 506 (1951). The Governor has not yet signed or vetoed the bill. Until he acts, it is impossible to determine what the act will consist of in its final form. Under the authority of the state supreme court's decision, your referendum is therefore premature.

We referred this matter to the Office of the Attorney General who concurred that your filing is premature under *State ex. rel. Daschbach v. Meyers*, 38 Wn.2d 330, 331, 229 P.2d 506 (1951).

We are therefore rejecting your proposed referendum for filing. If you wish to present a new referendum measure for filing after action by the Governor, please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pamela Floyd". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Pamela Floyd
Voter Registration Services Manager
Elections Division

Enclosure